

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Hispanic people make up 19% of our nation's population and 15% of Arlington County Government employees, and we thank you for strengthening our economy and communities with your mosaic of cultures and talents; and

WHEREAS, the Latino diaspora is already shaping US politics, as the Hispanic vote increased by 6% in the 2020 election cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Latinx community is leading conversations about gender equality, sexual diversity, systems of oppression, including systemic racism and colorism, social justice and human rights in their communities abroad and locally; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Latinx, Black Latinos, Afro-Latinx, Afro-Caribbean, people of African descent with roots in Latin America have distinguished themselves by the richness of their multidimensional and multifaceted identities through their prolific achievements in literature, performing arts, film, writing, music, among so many other fields, and

WHEREAS, Indigenous communities from the American southwest to Mexico to Tierra del Fuego have exemplified the power of reclaiming their multicultural and multilingual roots, by raising their voices not just as an echo of times past, but as present and active members of today's society; and

WHEREAS, Arlington recognizes human mobility as the right to freedom of movement, protected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and as the foundation of our own democracy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Cristol, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **September 15 through October 15, 2022** as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

in Arlington County and urge our residents to join and support the County's celebration of the rich heritage of our Hispanic residents.



Katie Cristol
Chair